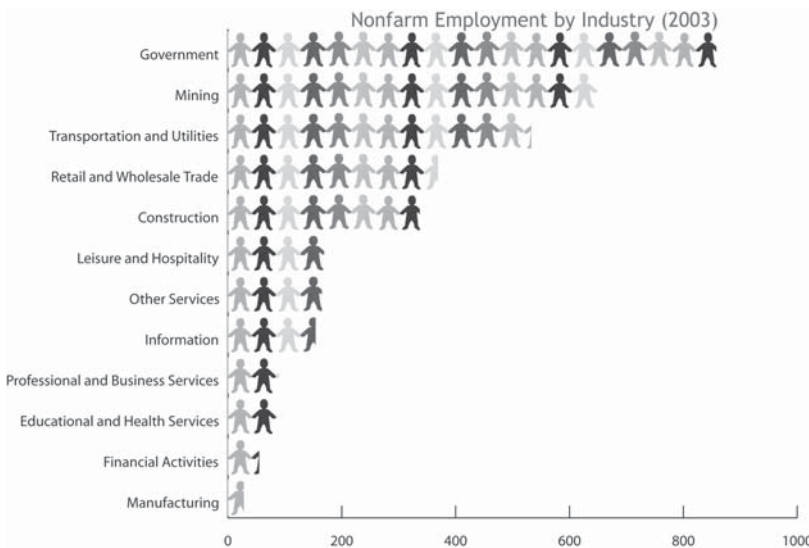


Emery

county highlight



by Michael Hanni



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services

Emery County, known for its coal mines and power plants, has a long and varied history. People have inhabited this ruggedly beautiful stretch of land for thousands of years. The earliest inhabitants, stretching back into antiquity, gave way to a population of Fremont Indians around 500 AD. In modern times, Mormon pioneers began settling in communities in Castle Valley in the late 1870s. The population of the county grew slowly until the energy boom of the 1970s – a period that saw the construction of large coal-fired power plants.

The mining and utility industries remain the important players in the local economy. In 2003, mining alone accounted for nearly 1 of every 5 jobs in the county. However, the public sector has become the largest employer, accounting for a quarter of all jobs in the county.

For more information about Emery County, check out:
<http://jobs.utah.gov/wl/Regions/east/emery/emery2.asp>
"State, County and Local Information"

- ✓ Archaic Period (8,000 BC - 1,000) people settled and lived in the area that was later to become Emery County.
- ✓ Between 1990 and 2003, Emery County produced the most coal in the state.